

# Ohio Slavic and East European Newsletter

Published for the Slavic Studies Community in the  
State of Ohio by the Center for Slavic and  
East European Studies, The Ohio State  
University, 230 West 17th Ave.,  
Columbus, Ohio 43210  
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Editor

OSEEN is published twice a month during the academic year. It is mailed free of charge to all those on our mailing list. If you are not on our list and wish to receive OSEEN regularly, please let us know.

OSEEN welcomes news items and notices of Slavic interest from around the State. Items of less than one page in length are carried without charge. Deadlines for the receipt of material are the Mondays preceding the first and third Thursdays of each month. The deadline for the next issue is February 16.

For further information please call one of the following numbers (area code 614): Editor: 268-1587 or 422-5323; Slavic Center: 422-8770.

## OHIO SLAVIC CALENDAR

- |               |   |  |
|---------------|---|--|
| February 2-25 | - | Bicentennial Celebration, Cleveland Public Library.<br>Exhibition: "Our Russian Heritage" (760)  |
| 5-6           | - | National Advisory Council on Ethnic Studies Meeting<br>at the Holiday Inn, 1111 Lakeside Avenue,<br>Cleveland, OH (854)  |
| 5-8           | - | Ohio Wesleyan students present two Chekhov plays:<br>"The Bear" and "The Proposal." Performance<br>nightly at 8:15 PM in Chappellear Drama Center,<br>Delaware, OH (883) |
| 7             | - | WOSU Radio Series, 9:30 AM (704)   |
| 7             | - | Bicentennial Celebration, Cleveland Public Library.<br>Special Russian Program, 2:30 PM, Main Library<br>Auditorium (881)  |
| 14            | - | WOSU Radio Series, 9:30 AM (704)   |
| 15            | - | Soviet film version of Nikolai Gogol's "The Inspector<br>General," OSU Campus, Ohio Union Conference<br>Theater, 1:00 PM, free admission. (884)                          |
| 21            | - | WOSU Radio Series, 9:30 AM (704)   |
| 26            | - | Yugoslav film "Love Affair," OSU West Campus, Bevis<br>Hall 144, 7:30 and 10:00 PM, admission \$1.25 (885)   |
| 28            | - | WOSU Radio Series, 9:30 AM (704)   |
| 28-29         | - | Ethnic Heritage Festival, Trumbull Campus of Kent<br>State University, Warren, OH (882)  |
| March 6       | - | WOSU Radio Series, 9:30 AM (704)   |

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

878. Recruiters for the National Security Agency (NSA) will interview candidates with majors in Near Eastern, East Asian, or Slavic languages on February 24 and 25, 1976, on the campus of The Ohio State University. Appointments may be made beginning February 9, 1976, by contacting Ms. Sandy Franklin, Placement Office, Room 5, Brown Hall, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210. Telephone: (614) 422-6734.

## TOUR ESCORTS NEEDED

879. The Association for Academic Travel Abroad, Suite 224, 1346 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, D.C., 20036, is seeking qualified individuals who would like to serve as tour guides for approximately two weeks, beginning in early May, for adult tours to Soviet Central Asia. Applicants must speak Russian well and have a sound general knowledge of the history and culture of Soviet Central Asia. Cities to be visited include Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, and Tashkent. Expenses and an honorarium will be paid. Tours to Eastern Europe and European Russia are also in the planning stages. Interested persons should contact Mr. David Perry at the above address or telephone (202) 223-4850.

## TUTORS IN ENGLISH NEEDED

880. Volunteer tutors in English who live in the Columbus area are being sought by the Jewish Family Services. Recent emigres from the USSR continue to arrive and settle in Columbus. These new arrivals need contact with Americans and instruction in English. Interested individuals who have one or two free evenings a week are invited to call: Ms. Debbie Schub, 237-7686. No knowledge of Russian required.

## CLEVELAND BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION CONTINUES

881. The Bicentennial Celebration sponsored by the Cleveland Public Library will feature an exhibition and special program highlighting "Our Russian Heritage" during February. The exhibition, on the second floor of the Main Library Building, will be open from February 2 through February 25, 1976. A special "Russian Program" will be presented Saturday, February 7, 1976, at 2:30 PM in the Main Library Auditorium. The program will include a program of Russian Liturgical Music presented by St. Theodosius Cathedral Choir under the direction of Kenneth J. Kovach, a lecture by Master of Ceremonies Dr. Anatol Glen on "The Russian Contribution to America," popular Russian folk dances performed by St. Theodosius Folk Dancers directed by Ms. Olga Gaydos, and Russian Musical Selections presented by The Russian American Cultural Society and directed by the former Assistant Conductor of the Moscow Bolshoi Theater, Mr. Boris A. Halip. The program will be followed by a reception.

## ETHNIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL IN WARREN, OH

882. The Trumbull Campus of Kent State University (located in Warren, OH) will sponsor its first Ethnic Heritage Festival on February 28 and 29, 1976. Over thirty groups are expected to participate in the two-day celebration. Entertainment, food, and exhibits are planned. Entertainment, including a Croatian Tamburitza group, Black singing, Russian singing, Scottish pipes and dancing, and Slovak singing, is planned for the 28th, 7:00-9:00 PM. Entertainment on Sunday, the 29th, 3:30-5:30 PM will feature Finnish dancing and singing, German singing, Hungarian dancing, Polish dancing and singing, and Slovenian dancing and singing. Exhibits open from 12:00 noon to 7:00 PM on Saturday and from 1:00-7:00 PM on Sunday. For further information contact: Dr. John F. Cadzow, Director, Ethnic Heritage Program, 119 Bowman Hall, Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242; telephone (216) 672-4443.

## CHEKHOV PLAYS PERFORMED

883. Ohio Wesleyan University students will present two one-act plays by Anton Chekhov: "The Bear" and "The Proposal." Performances will be given February 5, 6, 7, and 8 at 8:15 PM in the Studio Theater of Chappellear Drama Center on the main campus of Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, OH. General admission is \$2.00 and students \$1.50.

## SOVIET FILM SCHEDULED

884. The Center for Slavic and East European Studies of The Ohio State University will sponsor a showing of the Soviet film version of Nikolai Gogol's immortal "The Inspector General," directed by Vladimir Petrov. The film is in Russian with English subtitles. Sunday, February 15, 1976, at 1:00 PM in The Ohio Union Conference Theater. Free admission, one showing only.

## YUGOSLAV FILM

885. The Film Arts Society will present two showings of Dusan Makavejev's brilliant comedy "Love Affair, or the Case of the Missing Switchboard Operator," February 26, at 7:30 and 10:00 PM in Bevis Hall 144 on the West Campus of The Ohio State University. "A bold, bizarre and comic story of the love affair between a switchboard operator and a rat exterminator." Admission \$1.25.

## NEW SLAVIC COURSES AVAILABLE

886. Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH, is offering three new Slavic related courses this semester. These courses include a seminar on "Russian Suffering and Death from Pushkin to Solzhenitsyn" (we assume the seminar treats the themes of death and suffering in literature from Pushkin to Solzhenitsyn, Ed.), a course in advanced Russian syntax, and a course on Soviet literature since Stalin (in English translation). For more information contact the German & Russian Department, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH 44074.

## NEW SLAVIC COURSES AVAILABLE (CON'T)

887. Wittenberg University will offer two new Slavic related courses during the Spring Quarter, 1976. One course will treat Soviet Foreign Policy, and the other will be a course in third term Russian language. For more information, contact: Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH 45501.

## NEW RUSSIAN SINGING GROUP BEING FORMED

888. Professor George Kalbous of The Ohio State University's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures is forming a new Russian singing group. The group meets for rehearsals on Tuesdays, between 4:00 and 5:00 PM in Hughes Hall, room 218, on The Ohio State University campus. Knowledge of Russian is not a requirement nor is an operatic singing voice a requirement. Anyone with an interest in singing and a willingness to learn some Russian songs is encouraged to contact Professor Kalbous, 307 Cunz Hall, 1841 Millikin Road, Columbus, OH 43210; telephone: (614) 422-8065.

## SUMMER RESEARCH LABORATORY ON RUSSIAN AND EASTERN EUROPE

889. With the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Russian and East European Center of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will again sponsor in 1976 a Summer Research Laboratory on Russian and Eastern Europe. The Slavic collection of the University of Illinois Library is well-known. The program is designed for scholars who wish to use the library resources for independent research. Associates will be eligible to receive visiting faculty privileges in the Library, free lodging in an air-conditioned dormitory, and up to \$10 each week as reimbursement for photocopying. Associateships are available for periods of one week or longer, any time between June 7 and July 31. Persons from all disciplines and all parts of the Slavic field are invited to apply. Deadline is April 1, 1976, for applications. Contact: Professor Benjamin Uroff, Russian and East European Center, 1208 West California Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801; telephone (217) 333-1244.

## THE GERMANS FROM RUSSIA IN COLORADO STUDY PROJECT

890. Colorado State University has established a program to record and preserve the history of the German emigres from Russia who settled in Colorado. The purposes of the program are: 1) research and study; 2) historic preservation; 3) publication and dissemination of information; 4) graduate level history and archival training; and 5) public service. Interested persons should contact Professor Sidney Heitman, Project Coordinator, Department of History, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523.

## SOVIET SUMMER 1976

891. The Youth Division of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship announces a special educational tour to the Soviet Union for young people 19-30 years of age. The three-week tour will visit Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, and Togliatti (the Soviet Detroit). Total cost of the tour is \$899. Dates are August 2-23, 1976. For further information contact: Ms. Kathy Rotschild, Youth Coordinator, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc., 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010; telephone (212) Yukon 9-6677.

## NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA PUBLISHED

892. Academic International Press has announced the publication of the first volume of *The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet History*, edited by Joseph L. Wieczynski. According to the announcement *The Modern Encyclopedia (MERSH)* is projected to be: "The most complete and authoritative reference for all aspects of Russian and Soviet history and affairs in any language." *MERSH* will appear in English in 50 alphabetically organized volumes plus indexes and supplements. Available from Academic International Press, Box 555, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561. Price: \$27.50 per volume by subscription only.

## SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

893. The 1976 Ohio high school Olimpiada in Spoken Russian, sponsored by the Slavic Department of The Ohio State University, will take place on Saturday, March 13, 1976, on the OSU campus in Columbus. All high school Russian teachers should have received, or will soon receive, details on the event. Questions should be directed to: Professor David Robinson, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, The Ohio State University, Room 204 Cunz Hall, Columbus, OH 43210; telephone (614) 422-6733. Professor Robinson will also discuss the Olimpiada and answer questions at the Winter Workshop for Secondary School Teachers of Russian on Saturday, February 28, 1976, at the Fawcett Center for Tomorrow, 2400 North Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH.

894. The semiannual Center for Slavic and East European Studies list of "Certified Teachers Available in Ohio" will be updated in March. Any teacher of Russian holding a valid Ohio Teaching Certificate may be included; persons who will have certification by September, 1976, will also be listed. Send name, address, areas certified in, number of years of experience, and geographical reference to: Mr. Gerard Ervin, Center for Slavic and East European Studies, The Ohio State University, Room 344 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210.

895. On January 17th, the Russian Club of Columbus School for Girls dined at the Delikatesa Restaurant on West Lane Avenue. Twenty girls immensely enjoyed the beef Stroganoff, baked flounder, and chicken Kiev offered that evening. These main dishes were followed by luxurious desserts, including doboschtorte and kisel parfait. Everyone also enjoyed the atmosphere of this intimate restaurant. (Submitted by Beth Merriman, student, Columbus School for Girls)

## SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS (CON'T)

896. Timothy Spengler, a graduate student in Russian at The Ohio State University for the Doctor of Arts, has begun a Conversational Russian class at Indianola Elementary School in Columbus, OH. So far, there are eight pupils in the group, which meets once a week on Tuesday morning.

## TRANSLATOR NEEDED

897. Persons capable of translating material of moderate technical difficulty from English into Russian are being sought to aid in a project of one to two months' duration. Further information about pay scale and type of work may be obtained from: Mr. Lawrence R. Smith, P.O. Box 6743, Columbus, OH 43209; telephone (614) 258-9466.

# CENTER FOR SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

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(The following is excerpted from International Interaction, Volume IV, Number 1, January 1976)

## LANGUAGE STUDY DISCUSSED BY BOARD OF FOREIGN SCHOLARSHIPS

At a recent meeting of the Board of Foreign Scholarships, (BFS), a discussion was held on education in languages. Taking part in the discussions were Dr. Richard Brod, Director, Foreign Language Programs, Modern Language Association (MLA), Dr. Edward Scebold, Executive Secretary, American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, MLA, Dr. Richard Thompson, US Office of Education, and Dr. Monroe Donsker, Professor of Mathematics, New York University, and BFS member.

Dr. Donsker noted that a thriving language program had been in effect in Louisiana in which teachers from France, Canada, and other countries were teaching French as a second language to students in the public school system (first to twelfth grades).

Dr. Brod noted the progressive decline in the study of foreign languages in the United States since the late 1960's, with French, German, and Latin the hardest hit. He stated that there had been a 6% drop between 1972 and 1974 in the overall foreign language enrollment at the college level. There has been a fluctuation of interest in Russian with an increase in such ethnic languages as Italian, Polish, Hebrew, Chinese, Japanese and Spanish.

Dr. Brod provided statistical data. In 1966, 91% of U.S. colleges required language study toward an undergraduate degree. The ratio of modern foreign language registrations to the total college enrollments in 1960 was 17.0%; at its peak in 1963, it reached 17.8%; and it dropped to 9.9% in 1974. This represents an overall decline of 62%. In 1960, enrollment in French at the college level was 229,000. At its peak in 1968 when it was still the leading language at the college level, it reached 388,000, a growth of 69.6%. In 1974 it declined to 253,000, a drop of 34.8% between 1968 and 1974.

When asked as to how the decline in college foreign language enrollments had affected the secondary school level, Dr. Brod provided some statistics which, while incomplete, show some tentative conclusions based on a 1974 school survey. He stated that the 1970 foreign language enrollment at the secondary school level was stable but that it had dropped since then by approximately 2% when compared with the total school enrollment. Between 1970 and 1974, there was a drop of 21.4% in the number of students enrolled in language study classes. There was a drop of 8.7% in German; an increase of 42.9% for Italian; a drop of 31.6% for Latin; a drop of 27.8% for Russian; a drop of 4.8% for Spanish and an increase of other languages such as Japanese, Chinese, etc. of 95.8%.

At the college level, foreign language enrollments between 1968 and 1974

had a drop of 29.6%. Italian made the largest gain (8.7%) during this period; Russian dropped by 20.1%; Spanish more than doubled between 1960-1968; but had a drop of 0.7% between 1968 and 1974.

Dr. Brod stated that the foreign language teaching profession had made some efforts to broaden the bases for language study and the motivation on the part of the students by the training of a new generation of teachers who will be specialists, combining an interest in comparative economic systems and comparative cultures with some training in the language of these countries.

Dr. Scebold noted that there are some exciting programs for foreign language study in the United States. Teachers have changed the regular curriculum to fit individual students' needs. More students are going abroad with greater access to foreign language study and while there is less emphasis on languages as they were conventionally taught in the U.S., a new approach in terms of learning the total culture of a particular country has attracted interest.

Dr. Thompson's remarks related for the most part to the foreign language and area studies programs of the Office of Education, including those under the NDEA Title VI and Section 102 (b) (6) of the Fulbright-Hays Act. He stated that modern foreign languages and area studies are usually restricted to the uncommonly taught languages at the higher educational level, with Latin American studies as the major exception.

Dr. Thompson noted that the U.S. allocates approximately \$1 billion annually on foreign language education and questioned whether the investment was providing the desired results. He cited two nation-wide evaluative studies which focus on foreign language achievement: the Jack Carroll study based on data collected in 1965 on foreign language attainment of language majors in universities at the senior year level; and the second study, "Language and Area Studies Program Review" by Richard Lambert based on data collected from 1968-71. The latter concentrates on language and area competence for specialists at graduate levels with emphasis on the uncommonly taught languages.

Both studies conclude with a negative report on the levels of achievement. The two studies, which complement each other, conclude, among other things, that only 17% of those who were taught foreign languages wholly in the United States could speak, write or read the foreign language with ease while 63% of those who had studied abroad had excellent facility in the language.

Other conclusions from these studies included:

- the need for focusing on fewer students with more intensive language training rather than mass production of individuals which only results in poor language facility; and reinforcing the competence of a trained pool of specialists.



LANGUAGE STUDY DISCUSSED BY BOARD OF FOREIGN SPECIALISTS (cont.)

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- the greater the parents' use of foreign languages at home, the higher the mean scores of the students. This correlates with the resurgence in the study of ethnic languages.
- the higher education community should systematically employ the concept of aptitude testing in the administration of students in the foreign language classroom.
- the teaching of foreign languages at an earlier age is important- beginning at the Grade 7 level is too late.
- there is a need for national planning for foreign language teaching.
- there is a need for establishing bilingual education schools throughout the United States for those who have "kitchen" language competence.
- there is a need to determine the career-oriented goals of foreign language instruction in the schools.
- through exchanges, foreign languages could be taught first-hand by foreign national teachers with current international education materials to correct stereotypes.

Dr. James Billington, Chairman of the BFS, concluded the discussion by noting that there are two areas yet to be explored which had great potential in terms of foreign language training - that of adult education and the use of television.

The Board of Foreign Scholarships is a Presidentially-appointed Board which develops policy, supervises academic exchanges, and selects the participating scholars and institutions for the Fulbright-Hays exchange program of the Department of State.